

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE SARL NEWS SUNDAY 19 November 2006 You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. This broadcast can also be heard on Echolink by connecting to ZS6FCS or to www.zs6mrk.org and following the indicated links. This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the web site of the SARL i.e. www.sarl.org.za. You can read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email. This transmission is by Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with a relays on 3,695 and 14,235 MHz as well as 438,825 MHz in the Pretoria area. (Other news readers please change to suit). SILENT KEYS It is with regret that we have to announce the passing of Thinus Oosthuizen, ZS6WP, of Stilfontein, previously ZS2WP, of Venterstad, who died on 23 October at the age of 78 years. To his wife Rita and their family and friends go our sincere condolences. It is also with regret that we have to announce the passing of Pancho Goran-Vary, ZS5PIV, who died recently at the age of 90 years. Our sincere condolences to his family and friends. (PAUSE) In the news today: PLC TESTING STARTS ON MONDAY HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP? RADIO AMATEUR EXAMINATION DATES FOR 2007 ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS ACT AND RADIO AMATEURS - NO NEED FOR ANY ACTION You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items. PLC TESTING STARTS ON MONDAY An ICASA and SABS supported team under the guidance of Eric Winter will do some initial PLC radio interference testing in the Tshwane area this week. While no international standard do exist at this time, the team will use scientific measurements to determine the effects that PLC may have on the radio spectrum. SARLnews will follow-up and report on developments in this area. HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP? We know how easy it is to mislay an account until you are forcefully reminded that your electricity and water will be cut off in 24 hours unless you pay up. It is like that too with your membership of the SARL. You will soon loose access to the member's only portion of the SARL web and access to Radio ZS online. If your Radio ZS is mailed to you, you will not receive the next issue. All that inconvenience because you have mislaid the membership invoice and you have forgotten to pay. Please remedy it now. Simply send your cheque, bank transfer of credit card payment to the SARL. The fee for the current year is R305. If you need banking details or any other information, please call Vee during weekdays between 9 am and 1 pm at (011) 675-2393. If you wish to pay electronically the bank details are Standard Bank Killarney - branch code 00 72 05 Account number 001 682 059. Please fax a copy of the deposit slip or email it to admin@sarl.org.za If you are not yet a member, we have a special offer. Join now and only pay for six months. The fee is R155,00. This offer only applies if you are not currently a member or have not been a member for the past two years or longer. If you are fully paid up, thank you for your support. Amateur Radio needs you to ensure that it has a strong voice. We are glad you have taken the right step! RADIO AMATEUR

EXAMINATIONS DATES FOR 2007 The first examination for the ZU licence will be held on 1 March 2007 at the following venues: Cape Town, George, Port Elizabeth, East London, Durban, Pietermaritzburg, Bloemfontein, NARC, Pretoria, Nelspruit, Polokwane and Kimberley/Upington. Additional venues can be arranged if there are ten or more candidates. The examination fee is R50. The examinations dates for the ZR and ZS licenses for 2007 are 17 May 2007 with the closing date for enrolments 12 April, and 18 Oct 2007 with the closing date for enrolments 13 September. Clubs are requested to advise details of their courses for publication on the web and in the general media as part of an amateur radio promotions programme. Start planning now and send the details to armi@sarl.org.za before year-end.

HAVE AN AMATEUR RADIO RELATED QUESTION THAT YOU WOULD LIKE AN ANSWER TO? A few months ago the SARL introduced an Elmer service to assist radio amateurs and shortwave listeners with any questions they may have. The questions may be operational or technical. Pine Pienaar, ZS6OB, has a panel of experts who will come up with the answer to your question or problem. Simply email your question to elmer@sarl.org.za and allow a few days for an answer. Some complex questions may take a few days longer.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS ACT AND RADIO AMATEURS - NO NEED FOR ANY ACTION ICASA says there is no need for any action on the side of radio amateurs at this point in time. There have been several communications sent around alerting Radio Amateurs to the EC Act requirements for a FICA-type validation as required by the banking industry. A spokesperson for ICASA told the SARL that there is no need for radio amateurs to take any action. ICASA said that it will keep the SARL informed should the current position change.

SUMBANDILA SAT LAUNCH POSTPONED The Department of Science and Technology has decided to postpone the launch of Sumbandila Sat till April or May next year. The decision was taken by the Minister of Science and Technology to, amongst other things, ensure that the mission is an operational mission and not just a demonstration of technology. The elements of the system that need to be developed are: a full mission control system; a product generation system for image processing; as well as further applications for the communication payload. The opportunity to develop and deploy the complete mission infrastructure is welcomed by all stakeholders and will ensure that user groups can expect to utilise data from Sumbandila Sat shortly after the launch. Another positive implication of the postponement of the launch is that there is a better chance of the actual launch event not being postponed due to bad weather. The Department of Science and Technology (DST) would like to congratulate the technical team of Stellenbosch University, SunSpace and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) for having achieved all milestones that were contracted to date.

DIVISION 6 BAND PLANNING COMMITTEE TO MEET ON SATURDAY 25TH NOVEMBER. The last meeting for 2006 of the Division 6 Band Planning Committee will be held at the NARC from 9:00 - 12:00 on Saturday 25th November. All clubs in the region are invited to send a representative. Meetings are currently focussed on band planning for voice repeaters. For further information kindly contact Peter Hers, ZS6PHD, at 083 445 4634 or by email at zs6phd@mweb.co.za.

NEWS OTL RADIO AMATEUR CLUB AGM The OTL Radio Amateur Club held their AGM in Belfast and the following committee was elected: Chairman ZS6VS Dawid J van Rensburg; Vice Chairman ZS6MAJ Nico Engelbrecht; Secretary ZR6LEN Len Labuschagne. Congratulations and everything of the best for the coming year. SOUTHERN AFRICAN ANTIQUE WIRELESS ASSOCIATION New committee for the Southern African Antique Wireless Association. (the SA-AWA) Andy Cairns, ZS6ADY, current President of the AWA, is

pleased to announce the following committee for 2007: President - Gary Potgieter - ZS5NK; Past President and News Editor - Andy Cairns - ZS6ADY; Technical Manager - Rod Radford - ZS5RK;

Net Controller - Willem Nell - ZS6ALL; Treasurer - Willie Axford - ZS5WI; Public Relations - Alan Franzsen - ZS6BIK. Listeners are reminded that membership of the SA-AWA is free and by association. Meetings are held every Saturday at 08:30 SAST on 7 070 kHz, starting on SSB and moving over to AM later, as conditions permit. The SA-AWA is committed to the preservation of antique radio equipment, the heritage and use thereof. HF PROPAGATION CONDITIONS Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that solar activity is expected to be at very low to low levels. The geomagnetic field is expected to range from quiet to unsettled levels on 24 till 25 November. The expected Effective Sun Spot number for the coming week will be less than 30. 20 m and 40 m will provide best opportunities for DX. There is a possibility of brief 20 and 15 m openings towards the East from about 08:00 CAT. From about 16:00, 15 and 20 m may open towards Europe. From 18:00, 15, 20 and 80 m may open to the USA. For the CW and digital enthusiasts it may also be worth monitoring 10 MHz. Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information. DIARY OF EVENTS 18/19 - November Second leg of SARL HF field day competition; 25 - November Division 6 band planning meeting; 30 November - Closing date for submission of nominations for Council Members, SARL awards and motions for next year's AGM; 8/9 - December PEARS HF QSO Party; 16 February 2007 - Closing date for submission of entries for Tinus Lange 7066 Technical Excellence Awards; 1 March 2007 - ZU license exams. SARL News depends on clubs and individuals for news items of importance and interest to radio amateurs. The one and only way to ensure that your contribution will reach the SARL News team, is to place it in www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. It will be appreciated if you will do it in both Afrikaans and English. The SARL also invites all listeners to listen to the program Amateur Radio Mirror International this Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 695 kHz. Audio is also streamed on www.zs6mrk.org and on Echolink from ZS6FCS as for this bulletin. A repeat transmission takes place on Mondays at 21:00 on 3 215 kHz. Telkom and Sentech sponsor the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies. You have been listening to a news bulletin by the South African Radio League, which was compiled by Gustav, ZS6BWN. A prosperous week to all, 73. /EX